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MEMORANDUM FOR: []

7 Jan 1951

SUBJECT: Interrogation Reports

1. Of the various sources of operational intelligence received through regular channels in EE-1, perhaps the most valuable for BGFIEND operations is not being fully exploited because of EE-1's failure to receive retention copies of these reports and because of failure in the field to follow up the possibilities offered therein. I refer here to the interrogations of Albanian refugees who continue to escape across the border to Greece where they are interrogated by the Greek Agency and then by Strategic Intelligence Corps (U.S.) if the first interrogation proves of Army interest. The Greek Agency apparently makes available to SIC the reports of their interrogations; these are then translated and sent to Department of the Army, G-2 by the Army Attache in Athens. If SIC itself also interrogates the refugee, that report is forwarded to Washington in the same manner.

2. EE-1 has been receiving these reports intermittently. Usually there is at least a three month time lag between the date of the interrogation and the receipt of the dispatch by EE-1. In checking my interrogation file, I discovered that from the date of the first interrogation on file, December 1949, until the present, we have received retention copies of only 18 interrogations, some of these secured personally from OSO or from Army G-2, while we have received 48 covering dispatches indicating the name of the refugee, the date of entrance into Greece and the general categories of information covered in the interrogation which is not attached.

3. Since the covering dispatch is next to worthless for operational intelligence, this office has tried repeatedly to obtain retention copies of the interrogations themselves. During the first week in January, I requested from the CIA library 28 interrogations; these will come eventually, probably for a lean period of at most two weeks.

4. Feeling that these reports are of real operational interest, coming as they do from refugees who have actually been inside Albania during the past few months instead of from exiles of over five years I have spoken to people in ID/CD about the problem of obtaining retention copies. The situation is apparently somewhat as follows: The Department of the Army receives ditto masters of these Army Attache reports; they print up for CIA usually five to seven copies of the covering dispatch and one copy of the enclosure which is the interrogation itself. The seven copies of the covering dispatch are distributed; these now form the bulk of my interrogation file. The actual

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interrogation (one copy) is then disseminated through the various offices of CIA usually in the following order: OGI, ORR, OSO, OFC, BR, Library. (This is the general pattern; occasionally other offices are on the routing; occasionally extra copies of the interrogation are received; in which case OGI gets a retention copy.) ID/CD advised me that in order for EE-1 to receive retention copies of the enclosures, it will be necessary to put through a requirement with OCD which will in turn make a formal request of the Army. ID/CD considers this a requirement to be made from the Division rather than the Branch level. Unless an additional copy is made from the original ditto, OCD must photostat CIA's one copy of the enclosure, which is now the customary procedure in obtaining additional copies of the interrogation.

5. To indicate what value I attach to these relatively unexploited interrogations, I should like to point out that BGFIEND has requested (and in some cases received) operational clearances on 12 Albanians who have been interrogated by the Greek Agency and on whom we have reports. In four cases we have the complete interrogation on file, although these were not referred to when the clearance requests were initiated. In the other eight cases, we have only a file copy of the covering dispatch. I do not know whether I & S has access to these interrogations; if they do, they are more successful than WE-1.

6. Furthermore, it is my feeling that of those refugees cleared and in the Guard Company in Germany, a serious attempt should be made to follow up the Greek or SIC interrogation. Given the dearth of intelligence needed to run a clandestine operation inside Albania, it is believed that source should not go unexploited. Diagrams and layouts of specific targets, names of possible defectors, names and locations of potential resistance elements and many other points of penetration could be obtained from these people who are already available to BGFIEND. ~~OSO's OSO's~~ *consider failure to identify source also detracts from report's value.*

7. The following is a list of persons being cleared or already cleared for BGFIEND with a brief description of what information could be extracted from them. In most cases, since the actual interrogation is not available, one can only guess what this might be from the brief description contained in the covering dispatch:

a. Gani KELLOLI: According to 99-CRIAG, Subject has contacts with resistance elements in the Devoll area as well as with guards at the Maliq concentration camp. Interrogation (not received) indicates additional information on the Burrel prison camp.

b. Perik KULA: Information on the Burrel Coastal Artillery Unit, as of 1949 (Interrogation not received)

c. Fikri KULA: Described by interrogator as of "limited mental capacity". (Interrogation received personally from Army, G-2)

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d. Ibrahim KULA: Kavaje Anti-Aircraft Regiment, 1947-49. (Short interrogation received)

e. Kerim KULA: The burning of the Zemblak cooperative in the spring of 1951; Heavy Artillery Regiment in Elbasan, 1947 (interrogation not received).

f. Namnil KULA: Army Communications, 1946-1949 (interrogation not received)

g. Sulajman KULA: Peqin-Elbasan Railroad line (1950) (Interrogation received)

h. Sheban MUSA: Was Registrar at Military Hospital in Tirana, 1950. Subject should know disease categories necessary for release from military service, of interest to documents reproduction people. (Interrogation not received)

i. Veis VEIZI: Heavy Artillery Regiment, Elbasan, 1947-1950 (interrogation not received).

j. Ndue ZEFI: Deserted, escaped to Yugoslavia, thence to Greece. (Interrogation not received)

8. In addition there are many other Albanian refugees in Greece apparently not contacted by BGFIEND. Some of these have been contacted by an OSO interrogator who has just been sent to Greece, according to [redacted] This is occasionally evident by the description of source contained in the resultant SO report, which usually contains little operational intelligence of value to BGFIEND, although the report may be of interest to other CIA offices.

If BGFIEND (or OSO) could properly contact and properly interrogate the following refugees, much operational intelligence could be obtained beyond that contained in the Army interrogations or the SO reports; certain of these refugees might be of recruiting value:

a. Ferik BASHO: Served as chauffeur to Commanding Officer of 5 Infantry Division until Oct 50. Interrogation not received.

b. Shukri CUPISHTI: Doctor, entered Greece March 1950. Well educated and intelligent. Interrogation not received.

c. Prenk DLIA: Formerly with Pursuit Training Battalion at Kavaje, later with Frontier Post at Shales, February 1951. Interrogation not received.

d. Antony FLOROS: Greek-speaking; appointed Public Prosecutor in village of Zminec. Interrogation received.

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e. Ramadan HASI: Entered Greece March 1951. Imprisoned, escaped to Greece because of NCPA leaflets. Interrogation received personally from G-2

f. Stephan CHICHIS: Served as radio operator with Anti-Aircraft Unit at Kukove oil fields. Father in U.S. (SO has submitted various reports from this source but none showing layout of Kukove fields which would be of value for BQFIEND harassment operations)

g. Eristo XELITO: Dental Assistant at Gjonokaster Army Hospital, 1947; musician at Gjonokaster Officer's Club, 1950. Interrogation received.

h. Enver HENDIN: Korce prison July 1946; sincere, fair intellect. Interrogation received.

i. Vasil FANNIS: Well educated; anxious to give information. Has considerable information on personalities. Interrogation received from OSO.

j. Nispet KULO: Worked with State Transportation Office at Patos oil fields, 1951. Interrogation received from OSO on loan.

k. Ikmet SIMET: Well educated; anti-Greek. Served with Zog's Army. Accountant with stockfarming collective. Had seen NCPA leaflets. (Complete interrogation received from Army G-2)

l. Resat TOUSOULI: Former BK member; imprisoned for passive resistance. Information on fortifications, frontier guards. Interrogation received.

9. By recommendations concerning further interrogations of these refugees for the purpose of obtaining operational intelligence in connection with specific BQFIEND projects may be beyond the capabilities of BQFIEND at this time. () of OSO has, however, indicated his willingness to send special requests to his interrogator whenever EE-1 finds an interrogation of a refugee that they think operationally useful. It should not be beyond the capabilities of EE-1 to receive full interrogations from the Army on all Albanian refugees contacted by the Greek Agency or SIC, particularly since some of these may be subsequently recruited by BQFIEND.

10. I have gone into the situation vis-a-vis Albania in some detail; exactly the same predicament obtains in Bulgarian and Rumanian interrogations. () and () join in requesting that EE-1 receive retention copies of all interrogations of Bulgarian, Rumanian and Albanian refugees in Greece and wherever else they may be contacted such as Trieste and Istanbul.

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